IAB

THE INTERAGENCY BOARD
For Equipment Standardization and InterOperability

How and when was the IAB formed?

The IAB was sanctioned in 1998 by the U.S. Attorney General and founded by the Department of Defense's Consequence Management Program Integration Office and the Department of Justice's Federal Bureau of Investigation Weapons of Mass Destruction Countermeasures Unit.

Who is the IAB membership?

The IAB membership is comprised of local, state, and federal first responders. The membership encompasses experienced responders from the fire, law enforcement, emergency medical, public health, military, federal, emergency management, research, search and rescue, standards development, and homeland security communities.

What is the IAB?

The InterAgency Board for Equipment Standardization and InterOperability (IAB) is a user-working group supported by voluntary participation from various local, state, federal government, and private organizations.

What is the IAB's Mission?

The IAB is designed to establish and coordinate local, state, and federal standardization, interoperability, and responder safety to prepare for, respond to, mitigate, and recover from any incident by identifying requirements for Chemical, Biological, Radiological, Nuclear, or Explosive (CBRNE) incident response equipment.

The InterAgency Board

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How is the IAB organized?

The IAB is organized into Committees and SubGroups. Each SubGroup is chaired by a first responder, supported by a federal co-chair, and is focused on a specific mission area. The Committees and SubGroups are populated with subject matter experts relevant to the particular focus area of the group. Each SubGroup is responsible for maintaining its subsection of the Standardized Equipment List (SEL).

What Committees and Sub-Groups make up the IAB?

COMMITTEES
- Federal Coordinating Committee (FCC)
- Standards Coordination Committee (SCC)
- Science & Technology Committee (S&T)

SUBGROUPS
- Personal Protective & Operational Equipment (PP&OE)
- InterOperable Communications & Information Systems (ICIS)
- Detection & Decontamination (D&D)
- Medical
- Training

What is the Federal Coordinating Committee?

The FCC provides the interface between the IAB Chair and the sponsoring federal government agencies. FCC coordinates the interests and initiatives of the federal community with the first responder community.

Who are the Members of the FCC?

- Department of Defense, Office of the Deputy Assistant to the Secretary of Defense, Chemical/Biological Defense
- Department of Homeland Security, Federal Emergency Management Agency
- Department of Homeland Security, Office for Domestic Preparedness
- Department of Homeland Security, Science and Technology Directorate
- National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health
- National Institute of Standards and Technology, Office of Law Enforcement Standards

How do IAB members interact with the federal community to improve response capability?

The IAB membership frequently offers subject matter expertise to related responder efforts. Members are often called upon to: participate in the standards development process, review government policy, present at meetings and conferences, contribute in panel discussions, take part in research and development, and supply feedback on local, state, and federal initiatives. As a result the IAB has established significant relationships with many initiatives including the Responder Knowledge Base (RKB).

What is the SEL?

The Standardized Equipment List (SEL) is a generic list of equipment categories recommended by the IAB to local, state, and federal government organizations in preparing for and responding to Weapons of Mass Destruction (WMD) events.

How is the SEL different from other equipment lists?

The SEL is a nationally vetted and established guideline validated by the user community. The SEL is continually updated and provides users with information about adopted national standards, related reference standards, operating considerations, mission/hazard roles, maintenance and training considerations, etc. The SEL does not identify specific products or manufacturers.

Where can I find the SEL?

The SEL is available in hard copy and electronically. To request a hard copy, or to download a pdf, please visit the IAB Website at www.iab.gov. An interactive version of the SEL is available through the Responder Knowledge Base (RKB) at www.rkb.mipt.org.

What is the RKB?

The Responder Knowledge Base provides Emergency Responders, purchasers, and planners with a trusted, integrated, on-line source of information on products, standards, certifications, grants, and other equipment-related information. The RKB provides access to a robust assortment of information including the IAB SEL, the Authorized Equipment List (AEL) from the Office for Domestic Preparedness, and National Terrorism Response Objectives from Project Responder. Visit the RKB at www.rkb.mipt.org.

Where can I find more information about the IAB?
Visit the IAB website at WWW.IAB.GOV.